Amend claim 35 as follows:

claim 33, wherein said reactive compound is a monofunctional agent selected in the group consisting of functional styrene, acrylic and methacrylic acids and their derivatives, allyl halides, carboxylic compounds and their derivatives, isocyanates, alkyl halides, epoxides, functional styrene derivatives, acryloyl methacryloyl halides, and allyl halides.--

Amend claim 47 as follows:

--47. (amended) A process according to claim 45, wherein the pre-form is made of polymeric or copolymeric material, the step of selectively structurally modifying the flexible material comprising polymerization after the chemical reaction of polymeric or copolymeric material.--

Amend claim 56 as follows:

--56. (amended) A process according to claim 44, wherein the step of selectively structurally modifying the flexible material comprises chemically reacting a monofunctional or polyfunctional reactive compound with a reactive element of the flexible material.--